Application No.: 09/939,048

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 18, 20 and 22 are presently under consideration in the application. Claims 20 and 22 have been amended herein. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-7 and 18.

II. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 20 AND 22 UNDER 35 USC §101/112

Claims 20 and 22 now stand rejected under 35 USC §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In addition, claims 20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections for at least the following reasons.

Applicants have amended claims 20 and 22 to so as to clarify the fact that the programs are computer programs. In addition, applicants have amended the claims to clarify further the program's functionality in relation to the signal processing recited in the claims.

In view of such amendments, applicants respectfully submit that claims 20 and 22 are both clear and directed to statutory subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

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III. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all claims 1-7, 18, 20 and 22 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

/Mark D. Saralino/

Mark D. Saralino Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: October 30, 2006

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